

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No.23/ID/FUSN/2008

Dated: 30th June, 2008.

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of all States and
Union Territories (except Assam, Arunachal Pradesh,
Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Nagaland,
Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Daman & Diu,
Dadra & Nagar Haveli, and Lakshadweep).

Subject:- Issue of New & Duplicate Elector Photo Identity Cards after allotment of
new FUSN code – regarding.

Sir,

The Commission has already intimated the new FUSN code prefix for all
the newly delimited constituencies vide its letter of even number dated 27th May, 2008. It
has also been clarified vide para 3 of the above mentioned letter the newly allotted
FUSN shall be used only for the new cards/cards being issued afresh. It was also
clarified that old cards shall remain valid with the FUSN of the pre delimited
constituency in which the EPIC was issued even for the newly delimited constituencies.

Clarification has been sought on the following two points by some CEOs:-

- (1) Whether same EPIC number is to be given to Duplicate EPICs to be issued
henceforth to electors to whom EPICs have been issued under old EPICs
series i.e. before delimitation, or EPICs to be given under new EPICs series?
and
- (2) Whether fresh EPIC to be issued to residual electors of the newly delimited
constituency with new FUSN code should start from 1 (one) or not;

Regarding first point above, the following is reiterated –

An EPIC once issued to an elector shall remain valid during the lifetime
of the elector even if the elector shifts his/her residence within the

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कृपया आदेशन दिनांक 2.1/7/08
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(डा. एम.एस. कन्वाल)
उप सचिव, निर्वाचन

constituency or outside the constituency or even outside the State/UT. Therefore, a fresh EPIC need not be issued to an elector just because he/she has registered him/herself in a new place because of change of residence etc. It is not necessary to replace an EPIC every time the holder changes ordinary residence. It would be mandatory for the elector to get enrolled at the shifted place of residence but it is not mandatory to obtain /issue another EPIC at the changed address. The EPIC in possession of the elector would be relevant to establish his/her identity on the poll day provided the name is enrolled in the electoral roll of the shifted place of residence.

2.2 A Duplicate EPIC can be considered for being issued, provided the holder of the old EPIC requests for it and after ascertaining that the holder is still a registered elector.


2.3 Whenever such duplicate EPIC is issued it will have the same number as was originally allotted. It is reiterated that old EPICs shall remain valid and the EPIC no. of old cards shall continue to remain the same with FUSN of the pre-delimited constituency in which EPIC was issued, even when a duplicate EPIC with changed address or photograph etc. is sought to be issued.

2.4 As per the existing provisions of sub-rule (c) of rule 28 of R.E. Rules, 1960, an EPIC has to be issued for the first time at the expense of the Government. In case an elector after registration at the shifted place of residence applies for issue of an EPIC with the changed address or changed photograph etc., then another EPIC with the same number may be issued after charging prescribed fee of Rs.25/-.

2.5 Old EPIC that is sought to be replaced shall be taken back by the duplicate EPIC issuing authority and that old EPIC shall be destroyed by burning in the presence of a responsible officer and a certificate should be recorded thereafter by the Officer concerned and kept in record. (Instructions issued vide letter No.23/ID/UP/97 dated 25th January, 1997)

- 2.6 The previous ERO concerned should be informed to delete such elector's entry both from the Photo Electoral Roll database and the EPIC database of the part no./AC No. concerned.
- 2.7 It is a must that whenever an elector shifts his residence and prefers an application for inclusion of name in the changed place of residence through FORM 6 or 8A, as the case may be, the application must be scrutinised by the receiving officer thoroughly to ensure that the complete address of the earlier place of residence and EPIC number, if already issued, is mentioned properly. In case these columns are left blank then the officer receiving the Form must ask the applicant to fill up the details. It must be made clear that application by an applicant above the age of 25 will not be accepted in case these particulars are not furnished unless the applicant gives valid reasons and evidence for non-inclusion of his/her name in the previous years.
3. Regarding second point above, it is hereby clarified that the first new EPIC to be issued with new FUSN code should start from number 1(One) i.e. the first EPIC will thus be numbered as AAA000001C (AAA ---three alpha new FUSN code --- 000001—the first six digit number---8--- checksum digit).
4. Kindly acknowledge the receipt by ECI-mail/post.

Yours faithfully,


(Ashish Chakraborty)
Under Secretary
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Standard Distribution